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DR. E. T. CRANE, editor of *Chemical Abstracts*, writes to members of the American Chemical Society that *Chemical Abstracts* has reached a critical stage in its development, a collective index being needed. The foreign chemical abstract journals publish either five-year or ten-year indexes. The adoption of a similar policy by *Chemical Abstracts* is essential if its value as a permanent record is not to be gradually lost. The completion of the tenth volume is the logical occasion for the appearance of the first collective index. Since the resources of the society are not sufficient to meet the needs of this expensive undertaking, it is necessary that at least a large part of the cost be guaranteed by advance subscriptions.

THE publication is announced of a quarterly *Journal of Cancer Research*, the official organ of the American Association for Cancer Research, to be edited by Richard Weil, Cornell University Medical School. The other members of the editorial committee are: Joseph C. Bloodgood, The Johns Hopkins University; Leo Loeb, Washington University; Ernest E. Tyzzer, Harvard University; H. Gideon Wells, University of Chicago, and William H. Woglom, Columbia University.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

IT is now said that the estate left by Amos R. Eno is likely to amount to \$15,000,000. Provided the will filed for probate on October 28 stands, in the face of the contest being made by Mr. Eno's next of kin, Columbia University's share of the estate will be about \$7,000,000.

GRINNELL COLLEGE has received \$50,000 from an anonymous donor in the east. The college is conducting a campaign for new endowment and buildings. Recently a parcel of land in Kansas City, valued at \$150,000, was turned over to the college for the purpose of financing the start of a new men's dormitory system. The alumni of the college are raising funds for a new recitation building, the construction of which will be commenced next spring, which will cost in the neighborhood of \$250,000.

A 550-ton locomotive has been presented by the Illinois Central Railroad Company to

the University of Illinois. The university will use its new possession for instructional purposes and also for research work in its locomotive testing laboratory.

THE staff of the departments of physiology and biochemistry of the Fordham University School of Medicine has been reorganized and is now made up as follows: Lewis William Fetzer, Ph.D., M.S., professor of physiology and biochemistry; George F. Sheedy, Ph.B., M.S., assistant professor of physiology; Carl P. Sherwin, M.S., Ph.S., assistant professor of biochemistry; John Allen Killian, A.B., A.M., instructor in physiology and biochemistry.

At a recent meeting the trustees of the University of Illinois promoted Dr. Trygve D. Yensen, in recognition of his work on the magnetic properties of iron and iron alloys.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A GALAPAGOS TORTOISE

A FEW facts of interest in regard to the Galapagos tortoise *Testudo vicina* Gunther, are hereby submitted as they have a bearing on the growth of a family which heretofore was believed to progress very slowly.

On April 20, 1914, we received by express from Riverside, Cal., a dead tortoise weighing 450 pounds. This specimen was brought from the Galapagos Islands in 1900 by Edmund Heller, who later accompanied Colonel Roosevelt on his African trip, and weighed at time of its capture in 1899 only 29 pounds.

It was taken to the home ranch at Riverside, Cal., where it died April 18, 1914.

Its death was reported to Edmund Heller, at Washington, who immediately donated it to the Museum of History, Science and Art, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, Cal.

The specimen itself was not only mounted but the entire skeleton was installed as a separate exhibit, the two forming a striking addition to the science wing of the museum.

The following extracts from Edmund Heller's letter in regard to the tortoise are of especial interest:

It is a real pleasure to learn from you that the Galapagos tortoise which you have recently re-